

## Message Text

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65-60

ORIGIN SS-25

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DRAFTED BY ARA/CCA:CGLEYSTEEN:USOAS:FMCNEIL:JM

APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY

ARA - MR. ROGERS

ARA-LA/BR - MR. BALLANTYNE

S/S - GSSPRINGSTEEN

ARA - MR. LUERS

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 143349

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: BR, PFOR, OAS, OCON, CU

SUBJECT: LETTER TO SILVEIRA ON CUBA AND OAS

FOR THE AMBASSADOR

PLEASE DELIVER FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY TO  
FONMIN SILVEIRA AS SOON AS PRACTICABLE.

QUOTE:

DEAR ANTONIO:

1. IN KEEPING WITH OUR UNDERSTANDING TO KEEP IN TOUCH  
ABOUT THE OAS CUBAN SANCTIONS, I WISH TO INFORM YOU OF  
SEVERAL DEVELOPMENTS.

2. YOUR EMBASSY MAY HAVE REPORTED TO YOU PRESS  
SPECULATION SURROUNDING A NEWS REPORT YESTERDAY THAT  
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PREMIER CASTRO, IN LETTERS TO SENATORS SPARKMAN AND

MCGOVERN, OFFERED TO RETURN \$2 MILLION RANSOM MONEY  
OWED TO SOUTHERN AIRWAYS AND TAKEN TO CUBA IN 1972 BEFORE  
OUR HIJACKING UNDERSTANDING WITH CUBA.

3. THE PRESS WANTED TO KNOW WHETHER THIS WAS THE KIND  
OF POSITIVE STEP BY CUBA REQUIRED BY US BEFORE  
RESUMPTION OF BILATERAL RELATIONS COULD BE CONSIDERED. WE  
HAVE TOLD THE PRESS: 1) THAT THE TONE OF CUBAN  
PROPAGANDA HAS BECOME MORE MODERATE AND THAT CUBA  
EVEN HAS TAKEN SOME STEPS; 2) THAT WE PREFER, HOWEVER, TO  
NEGOTIATE GOVERNMENT TO GOVERNMENT RATHER THAN THROUGH  
THE U.S. CONGRESS; AND 3) THAT THIS DOES NOT MEAN THAT  
SUCH NEGOTIATIONS ARE IN PROGRESS. WE HAVE SAID FURTHER  
THAT SUCH NEGOTIATIONS WILL OCCUR IN TIME BUT DECLINED  
TO SPECULATE WHEN OR UNDER WHAT CIRCUMSTANCES.

4. REGARDING THE OAS SANCTIONS, I WISH TO CONFIRM THAT  
WE WOULD SUPPORT A "FREEDOM OF ACTION" FORMULA AT SAN  
JOSE, AS DISCUSSED PRIOR TO AND DURING THE OAS GENERAL  
ASSEMBLY. WE CONTINUE TO ENVISAGE THAT ONCE A PROTOCOL  
OF AMENDMENT TO THE RIO TREATY HAS BEEN APPROVED AND  
SIGNED AT SAN JOSE, AN ORGAN OF CONSULTATION WILL BE CON-  
VOKED TO DEAL WITH THE CUBAN SANCTIONS BY MEANS OF A  
"FREEDOM OF ACTION" FORMULA.

5. WE HAVE JUST BEEN IN TOUCH WITH FACIO AS CHAIRMAN  
AND HOST OF THE SAN JOSE MEETING. ALTHOUGH THE COSTA  
RICAN GOVERNMENT IS CONCERNED ABOUT STIRRING-UP CUBAN  
EXILE ACTIVITIES, FACIO'S INTENTION IS TO HAVE AN ORGAN OF  
CONSULTATION HELD IN SAN JOSE AT THE END OF THE MEETING  
OF PLENIPOTENTIARIES.

6. FACIO IS THINKING IN TERMS OF CONVOKING THE PERMANENT  
COUNCIL, THE ONLY BODY EMPOWERED TO CONVOKE THE ORGAN  
OF CONSULTATION, AT THE LAST MINUTE IN SAN JOSE TO  
AVOID EXCITING TOO MUCH PUBLICITY AND COMPLICATING COSTA  
RICA'S SECURITY PROBLEM. OF COURSE, THE COUNCIL MAY BE  
CONVOKED IN ANOTHER COUNTRY QUITE EASILY AS LONG AS THERE  
IS CONSENT BY THE HOST GOVERNMENT.

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7. FACIO WILL SUPPORT THE "FREEDOM OF ACTION" APPROACH.  
WE HAVE NO INTENTION OF TAKING ANY OVERT LEAD, BUT DO PLAN  
DISCREET CONSULTATIONS IN ORDER TO ASSURE SOME MEASURE OF  
ADVANCE AGREEMENT ON A SATISFACTORY "FREEDOM OF ACTION"  
FORMULA.

8. I WOULD BE VERY GRATEFUL TO HAVE YOUR THINKING,  
REGARDING THIS COURSE OF ACTION AT SAN JOSE. WARMEST

PERSONAL REGARDS, HENRY. CLOSE QUOTE. INGERSOLL

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## Message Attributes

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